

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 221935Z JULY 75

FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1208

INFO: RUDKFDQ/AMEMBASSY LISBON 754

COMUSFORAZ

UNCLAS PONTA DELGADA 264

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS : PINT, PO

SUBJECT : ANTI-LEFTIST ACTIONS IN AZORES

1. SINCE JULY 14 HAVE BEEN SEVERAL INSTANCES IN THE AZORES OF POPULAR REACTION AGAINST ALLEGED LEFTISTS. IN PONTA DELGADA THE EMPLOYEES OF THE BANCO MICAELENSE (ONE OF THE LARGEST LOCAL BANKS) VOTED TO OUT A MANAGER SENT FROM LISBON AFTER THE BANK NATIONALIZATION. THE EMPLOYEES CLAIMED THE MAN WAS INCOMPETENT, PAID TOO MUCH, AND SPENT ALL HIS TIME ON LEFTIST POLITICS. THE LOCAL PPD RPT PPD ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE SUPPORTING THE EMPLOYEES' ACTIONS. SUBSEQUENTLY, THERE WERE RUMORS THE DISMISSED MANAGER WOULD TRY TO RETURN TO THE BANK ON JULY 21. IN RESPONSE ABOUT A HUNDRED PEOPLE GATHERED OUTSIDE THE BANK'S OFFICE READY TO ASSIST THE BANK EMPLOYEES IN PREVENTING THE DISMISSED MANAGER'S RETURN. THE UNPOPULAR MANAGER NEVER APPEARED.

2. THERE ARE REPORTS THAT A GROUP OF YOUTHS BROKE INTO THE PONTA DELGADA OFFICES OF THE PCP RPT PCP AND CAUSED SOME DAMAGE BEFORE THE LOCAL TROOPS ARRIVED.

3. ON TERCEIRA AND FAIAL LOCAL CITIZENS AND FARMERS HAVE PUBLICLY DEMONSTRATED AGAINST THE NAMING OF NEW MANAGERS, ALLEGED TO BE COMMUNISTS, TO A NATIONALIZED MILK PROCESSING  
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COMPANY WHICH HAS BRANCHES ON BOTH ISLANDS. ON FAIAL, ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS, THE CIVIL GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER OF THE COAST ARTILLERY WITNESSED THE DEMONSTRATION AT THE REQUEST OF THE LOCAL FARMERS. ON TERCEIRA AFTER A NOISY MEETING PROTESTING THE NAMING OF TWO CONTINENTALS TO THE MANAGEMENTS OF THE FIRM, THE DEMONSTRATORS MARCHED TO THE LOCAL RADIO STATION ACCORDING TO ONE PRESS REPORT, THE GROUP PROTESTED THE ANTI-SEPARATIST PROGRAMS BROADCASTED BY THE STATION. THE DEMONSTRATORS THEN THREATENED TO MARCH ON THE LOCAL PCP RPT PCP, BUT DISPERSED INSTEAD.

4. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF AUTHORITIES IN LISBON WILL TRY TO FORCE UNPOPULAR MANAGERS ON LOCAL BUSINESSES IN SPITE OF THE POPULAR PROTESTS.  
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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

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